

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY HELSINKI IMMEDIATE

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TAGS: OVIP (ROGERS, WILLIAM)

SUBJECT: AFTERNOON NEWS AND COMMENT SUMMARY JULY 5

1. HIGHLIGHTS. THURSDAY NOONSTAR FEATURES HORNER SAN CLEMENTE, TALK OF CHOU VISIT GROWS, REPORTING SPECULATION CHOU COULD MAKE UN TRIP THIS FALL AND SEE NIXON INFORMALLY IN WASHINGTON. STAR ALSO FRONTPAGES TWO OTHER STORIES REPORTED IN EARLIER CABLES: JULIE EISENHOWER STORY, STORY ON INDICTMENT OF TOP FOUR URGED.

1A. STAR HAS HELSINKI ON PAGE TWO, HEADED RUSSIAN SAYS WOULD REPEAT 1968 INVASION; STAR ALSO HAS HELSINKI EDITORIAL STAR INSIDE REPORTS FRENCH A-TESTS MAY START ON BASTILLE DAY.

1B. WEDNESDAY THURSDAY BALTSUNS FRONTPAGED HELSINKI STORIES WEDNESDAY HAD PHOTO OF ROGERS GROMYKO TOASTS.

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2. HELSINKI. THURSDAY STAR HAS HELSINKI UPI STRESSING SOFINSKY STATEMENT WHICH, IN A WEEK OF WARM WORDS, HIT WITH THE SHOCK OF COLD WATER, SOFINSKY INDICATING THAT IF NECESSARY SOVIET UNION WILL INVADE ONE OF ITS ALLIES--AS IT DID IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA IN 1968, AND ADDING THAT NOTHING ADOPTED BY DIPLOMATS FROM 35 COUNTRIES ALTERS THAT FACT. UPI RE-

PORTS DIPLOMATS SAID SOFINSKY'S STATEMENT MIGHT UNDO MUCH OF THE TRUST BUILT UP OVER THE SEVEN MONTHS OF PRELIMINARY WORK WHEN THE 35 NATIONS FRAMED BROAD PRINCIPLES THAT APPEARED TO BAR ANY CZECHOSLOVAK-STYLE INVASION. UPI QUOTES SOFINSKY REPLYING TO QUERY WHETHER GROMYKO'S DRAFT WOULD RULE OUT ANOTHER CZECHOSLOVAKIA: THERE WAS NO INTERFERENCE IN INTERNAL AFFAIRS BUT A REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE FROM THE CZECHOSLOVAK GOVERNMENT; THE SAME GOES FOR THE FUTURE. UPI SAYS FIRST PHASE OF HELSINKI IS EXPECTED TO END LATER THIS WEEK. UPI ADDS THAT KOSYGIN IN VIENNA AGREED THAT THE MIDEAST CRISIS SHOULD GO ON THE AGENDA OF THE SECURITY CONFERENCE BUT HE WANTS IT DELAYED TO A LATER STAGE, GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS SAID, ONE REPORTING THAT KOSYGIN AND KREISKY AGREED THAT MIDEAST CRISIS IS A VALID CASE FOR THE GENERAL DEBATE AT THE EUROPEAN SECURITY CONFERENCE BUT SOVIET PREMIER SAID IT SHOULD BE BROUGHT UP AT A LATER STAGE BECAUSE THE AGENDA IS ALREADY FULL WITH QUESTIONS OF MORE IMMEDIATE CONCERN.

2A. STAR EDITORIAL SAYS IT WILL BE MANY MONTHS BEFORE MUCH WILL BE KNOWN OF RESULTS OF LONG-HERALDED CSCE, ADDING THERE IS ROOM FOR SKEPTICISM ABOUT HOW MUCH THIS VAST CONCLAVE REALLY HAS TO DO WITH THE PROBLEMS OF EUROPEAN SECURITY, NOTING TROOP REDUCTIONS ARE TO BE NEGOTIATED SEPARATELY IN A MORE RESTRICTED MEETING. THE RUSSIANS, DESPITE RECENT TREATIES, REMAIN DEEPLY CONCERNED ABOUT POTENTIAL INSTABILITY OF EASTERN REGIMES AND HOPE THE CONFERENCE WILL SERVE TO CONSOLIDATE THE IDEOLOGICAL STATUS QUO, AND THIS IS LIKELY TO BE THE MAJOR POINT AT ISSUE. ABOUT THE ONLY THING OF IMPORTANCE WEST CAN HOPE TO GAIN FROM CSCE LIES IN AREA OF HUMAN CONTACTS AND A GRADUAL EASING OF THE IDEOLOGICAL TENSIONS THAT ARE THE UNCLASSIFIED

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MAJOR CAUSE OF EUROPEAN INSECURITY TODAY. HELSINKI MAY WELL MARK FORMAL ENDING OF SOME ASPECTS OF COLD WAR BUT OPENING UP THE IDEOLOGICAL FRONTIER IN EUROPE IS CERTAIN TO MEET STIFFEST KIND OF SOVIET RESISTANCE.

2B. THURSDAY BALTSUN OISHI STRESSES THAT ON SECOND DAY OF CSCE BASIC EAST-WEST DIFFERENCES RE-EMERGED ON THE AIMS AND PURPOSES OF THE CONGRESS, WITH SCHEEL STATING--

IN CONTRAST TO EXPRESSED SOVIET HOPES FOR ELIMINATING MILITARY ALLIANCES IN EUROPE--THAT THE CONFERENCE WAS ONLY POSSIBLE ON THE BASIS OF THE EXISTING BALANCE OF POWER IN EUROPE, ADDING: WE SHOULD NOT AROUSE ANY FEELING THAT SOME NEW KIND OF SECURITY SYSTEM IS BEING PRODUCED THAT MAKES OTHER EFFORTS TO PRESERVE SECURITY SUPERFLUOUS. OISHI ALSO QUOTES JOBERT'S WARNING AGAINST MISLEADING FALSE ASSURANCES. OISHI REPORTS THAT WESTERN SOURCES SAID THEY SAW LITTLE THAT WAS OBJECTIONABLE IN THE SOVIET DECLARATION, WHICH WOULD REAFFIRM VIRTUALLY ALL UN PRINCIPLES, PROVIDED IT WAS NOT THE ONLY THING THAT CAME OUT OF THE CONFERENCE. OISHI REPORTS THE DECLARATION ALSO CONTAINS THE PHRASE SUGGESTED BY THE WEST TO NULLIFY THE SO-CALLED BREZHNEV DOCTRINE BUT SOFINSKY'S STATEMENT SHOWS IT WOULDN'T PRECLUDE ANOTHER CZECHOSLOVAKIAN INVASION. WEDNESDAY BALTSUN OISHI HAD LONG PIECE INCLUDING WALDHEIM STATEMENT THAT CONFERENCE IS DECISIVE TURNING POINT, THE BEGINNING OF A NEW AND HOPEFUL CHAPTER IN EUROPEAN AND WORLD HISTORY. RUSH

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